

# The Washington Times.

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1903.

## Daily Calendar of American History

November 17.

1779—M. Gerard succeeded by Chevalier de la Luzerne as minister from France to the United States.

1890—The second session of the Sixth Congress meets. (First meeting of Congress in Washington.)

1892—Jefferson Davis threatens reprisals if General McNeill is not surrendered.

1892—Lord Lyons, British minister to the United States, reports to his government the prospects of the Confederates.

## Morgan and Rockefeller.

Latter Best Equipped for Financial War Now Raging.

A statement of the comparative values of the Morgan and Rockefeller properties has recently been published which will be of supreme interest to financiers the world over, in view of the fact that the Morgan and Rockefeller forces are supposed to be engaged in the greatest war fought without guns of modern times. It appears from this statement that the Rockefeller companies are all in a most flourishing condition, as proven both by the very healthy dividends which they continue to pay and that these colossal properties as a whole bear an actual market value over capitalization of the immense sum of \$484,979,282! Standard Oil, which is the most profitable of the Rockefeller holdings, yesterday declared a quarterly dividend of 12 per cent, or \$12,000,000 on its capitalization of \$100,000,000, and by reason of this announcement the stock was selling in open market as high as 655. All the Rockefeller properties, with one exception, have a greater value than their capitalization, and, as a whole, they have increased nearly 100 per cent.

Contrasted with this bright picture, it is seen that the Morgan properties, led by United States Steel, show a shrinkage of nearly 50 per cent, and are worth less than the incredible sum of \$1,132,841,788 less than their capitalization!

These stupendous figures are almost beyond comprehension, dealing, as they do, with interests in which a host of financiers are involved, one way or the other. If they teach anything at all to the ordinary mind, they seem to declare that Oil, and not Steel, is king.

## Useless Racket.

Will the City of the Future Be Quiet?

The voice of protest has been raised once more against the useless noises of the modern city, the occasion of protest being the fact that a Russian woman recently went insane in New York from the constant noise which assailed her ears. There are other people whom the noise appears to have made insane, but in a slightly different fashion. They appear to like it and be proud of it.

A voice of sane protest has, however, been raised, apropos of this incident, and it has been urged that some, if not all, of the noise of the average city street is quite useless. The street cries of vendors and newsboys belong to this class of unnecessary noises, so do two-thirds of the bells and whistles which serve as ostensible signals to working people. It is a question, however, whether in the city of the future all this racket will be reduced to a minimum. There are people who seem to think that to condemn unnecessary noise is to write one's self down a weakling and a nervous invalid.

It is a question, for example, whether the mournful howls of street vendors really help them to sell their goods. The people who buy are usually on the lookout for them, anyway, and would signal them to stop if they went by in absolute silence. Newsboys, too, are more often stopped by those who see them than by those whose attention is attracted by their shrills. As for signaling by bells and whistles, that really seems, in this age of the world, a most unneeded-for racket. A few large clocks, kept in good order and put in conspicuous places, would be several times as useful to the public as the screech of a whistle. Nobody who is likely to be

employed in shop or factory is likely to be unable to tell the time of day by looking at the clock, and, in fact, most of them have clocks or watches of their own. What is the need of screaming in their ears a summons to which they do not listen, because custom has made it unnoticed?

## Leonard Wood.

Is the Military Experience of His Critics Greater Than His?

The "New York Sun" remarks: Indignation is intense in many quarters over the injustice to the hundreds of honorable and experienced army officers who have been wronged by the unexampled promotion of this physician.

Rubbish! The indignation is intense only among incompetents and nincompoops. A soldier—the real thing, we mean—doesn't go about blubbering like a schoolgirl, nor does he air his grievances on the housetops. He does his duty and doesn't criticize his superiors. He knows that to do the latter is incompatible with discipline. And discipline, he has been taught, is the essence of military life.

What means all this hullabaloo about Gen. Leonard Wood, anyway? Has he shown himself to be less competent than others of his rank in the handling of men, or in the discharge of purely military duties? Has he not, on the contrary, proved that he belongs to the class of people who believe in doing things and do them?

Is not his experience in Indian warfare quite as extensive as that of most officers who now are said to criticize his promotion on the ground that he possesses none? And what other military experience, pray, have these stern critics of the whilom army surgeon? Will anybody seriously contend that Leonard Wood wouldn't do quite as well as, and perhaps a great deal better than, say, General Shafter did, whose army escaped complete annihilation on the southern coast of Cuba only through the incompetence of the enemy, and who, a few days after his grotesque landing near Guantanamo, was ready, pauper-stricken, to order a retreat from in front of Santiago? Will anybody maintain that Gen. Leonard Wood, of whom the "Sun," with ill-concealed contempt, speaks as "this physician," would not have proved a more energetic and efficient commander-in-chief than that pompous theorist, General Otis, who spent his days and nights scribbling misleading dispatches, scribbling newspaper correspondents and never once stirring from his desk in the walled city of Manila to take the field against Aguinaldo and his rabble of bare-legged "patriots"?

History abounds in examples of successful military leaders whom the "Sun," and others, no doubt, would have called, at the outset of their military careers, "inexperienced amateur soldiers." Our own civil war gave abundant proof that the art of war can be and is often acquired, as a matter of fact, by men of little or no previous military training almost intuitively. A great man is a great man in any place he chances to be. Leonard Wood may not be a great man; he certainly is a very remarkable man. His military qualities, as far as a layman is able to judge, are quite on a par with those possessed by other officers in the army. And they may be greater, though he has had no opportunity to show them. But neither have they. It's mere guesswork.

When the "Sun" talks of the President, "for friendship's sake," as taking the chances and decreeing "the appalling risk" involved in the possibility of Gen. Leonard Wood one day commanding the United States army, it talks, we repeat, rubbish. It's twaddle of the worst kind.

## The Riddle of an Ear.

How, When, and Where Was It Lost by Its Owner.

The mysterious rich man from the West who is shy an ear and offers \$5,000 for one to match his left receiver of sound waves contributes an interesting addition to the list of questions which are at least puzzling, if not unanswerable.

The oldest of these world-problems is: "Who were the parents of Adam's daughters-in-law?" Every one gives that up. The next on the list is: "Where was Homer born?" and the clamor of claimant cities has come echoing down the ages, although the cities are dust and ashes and their names forgotten.

Then we have the identity of the Man in the Iron Mask, the authorship of the letters of Junius, who wrote Shakespeare's plays, what became of Morgan, the recreant Mason; who struck Billy Patterson, why should the spirit of mortal be proud, what did the man in Mars telegraph to Tesla, who cheated Packsher's hat, what smashed Fusion, how old is Ann, and who turned the crank of the Panama revolution?

Now every one is asking: "How did the man from the West lose his ear?" There are several ways in which ears

may be lost in the West. Presumably it is but recently that the mysterious man from the West became rich enough to be worried by his aural deficiency and to afford \$5,000 for surgical graft. A one-eared man is inconspicuous in some parts of the country until he strikes it rich, becomes a prominent citizen and cultivates social and political aspirations. Then people begin to notice his incompleteness and dig up his record.

Rude men who "punch cows" crop the ears of cattle for identification, and sometimes they employ the same method of marking those "high financiers" of the range who acquire stock in the Beef Trust with no other capital than a rope and a branding iron. What the East terms "financiering," it may be remarked incidentally, West long ago christened "rustling." Wall Street is still behind the West in that it has not yet adopted the expedient of "undercropping" or "swallowtailing" the ears of its stock rustlers.

But it is not to be assumed that the man from the West lost his ear in that way. Possibly his system of playing the national game met with the disapproval of an impulsive person who carried a knife, or perhaps something bit his ear off. It has been suggested that he tried to shave himself with a safety razor, and even the theory that he lived in Kansas and his ear was blown off by a cyclone has been advanced, but those hypotheses are as absurd as the guess that the man from the West is a noted citizen of Nebraska, who has strained off his right earicular listening for the call of his party to lead it out of the wilderness.

How did the man from the West lose his ear? Can anyone answer the question?

The Dominion government has decided to appeal to Great Britain to grant the Dominion treaty-making powers. When Laurier first made this proposition England was so shocked as hardly to contain herself. And yet the Dominion seriously contemplates making such a request. The latest proposition is to give the King veto power. There is no doubt that the movement for greater liberty in Canada has the support of the masses of the people. The tether of British colonies is rather precarious. Australia is not disinclined to go it alone.

The reports of the horse show would be much more interesting if some newspaper were enterprising enough to interview the horses.

A London scientist has found out that the inhabitants of great cities suffer from brain fog. But what do they suffer from if unprovided with brains?

Dowie says his New York trip was a success because he distributed sixty-nine tons of literature. We know churches with many more tons of brick in them than that who can't muster a congregation by any means short of a high-class vaudeville show. Does their weight make them a success, too?

Judging from the way the criticisms in the New York papers read, not only does money talk, but the clothes of moneyed people give a whole opera performance.

The new fashion in operas rewards the composer with public embraces by the star. This will lead to caution on the composer's part. If the star happens not to be kissable he will regret having written as tunelessly as he can.

It is no doubt unfortunate that General Kitchener should have broken his leg, but just think how much more unfortunate it would have been if the thing had happened before the Boers were all corralled.

It was hard on that new planet to name it Pittsburgh, but everybody knows that if it had been anything like Pittsburgh, the smoke would have been too thick to allow it to be discovered.

The "New York Evening Post" says that the President has hastened to fall into the arms of a Jonah's gourd republic, which is rather embarrassing the miracle. We have all heard of Jonah's gourd, but we never knew it had arms before.

In London detectives masquerading as milkmen have arrested four desperate characters. In this country milkmen masquerading as detectives would probably get no farther than the pump.

## The Drift of Public Opinion.

Atlanta Constitution: There's something doing in the bill line in the extra session of Congress. We note that the bill to establish the metric system of weights and measures was also among those introduced.

Philadelphia Record: In the view of the authorities at Washington the law of nations is not to be considered for a moment in connection with so big a thing as the Panama Canal.

Birmingham Age-Herald: All the Administration lacks now is a colonial secretary.

Reading Telegram: Isn't it rather impertinent to try to go back of the fact that General Wood was a rough rider?

Butte Inter-Mountain: President Roosevelt's message to the special session of Congress was so short that he was able to deliver it before Walter Wellman could anticipate it.

Indianapolis News: The bill of Representative James of Kentucky, providing that the United States circuit court may override the governor of a State in the matter of the requisition for a fugitive from another State, makes it pretty clear that Mr. James is a good deal more of a politician than of a real Democrat.

Chicago Record-Herald: Henry Watterson's boy was defeated in the New York election. He ran for alderman on the Tammany ticket in a fashionable district. Wait till Henry gets time to take another whack at society.

## Questions and Answers.

### The Yellowstone Park.

When was the Yellowstone National Park established? COLORADO.  
It was established by an act of Congress May 1, 1872.

### The Isthmian Canal.

When was the Isthmian canal first proposed? PAN-AMERICAN.  
The first exploration for a canal route was made in 1827-28 by H. de la Serna, between Chagres and Panama. A canal across the isthmus was proposed in 1851 by Lopez de Gomara.

### The National Debt.

What was the national debt July 1, 1866? FISCAL.  
It was \$2,773,236,172.69.

### Naturalization.

When was the first American naturalization law passed? ALIEN.  
It was passed in 1805 by the Colonial Legislature of Maryland. A uniform naturalization law was passed by Congress March 26, 1790.

### English Theaters.

Were the theaters in England ever closed by law? T. M. M.  
Yes. They were closed by parliament from 1642 to 1699.

### Tel-el-Kebir.

Please tell me something of Tel-el-Kebir. CHARLTON.  
Tel-el-Kebir is a fortified seaport town in Egypt. Here, September 13, 1882, Sir Garnet Wolseley defeated Arabi Pasha. The British force numbered 11,690 infantry and 4,600 cavalry. The Egyptians were intruded upon twice that force. The British lost 52 killed and 239 wounded; the Egyptians suffered a total loss of 1,500.

### Result of Recent Elections.

What was the total number of votes cast at the recent election for all the candidates for governor in the State of Ohio? How much was the total cast in Massachusetts, and how much in Iowa? S. N.

I would thank you if you would furnish me with full number of votes cast for governor in Ohio, Iowa, and Massachusetts during the election of the 24 of the present month.

The official figures cannot be had at this time. The votes in the States mentioned have not been canvassed by the election boards.

## In a Lighter Vein.

### Winter's Approach.

The melancholy days have come, When the poetizer's joke Reminds us that our overcoat Must be taken care of.

### An Untimely Request.

Wife—(timidly)—Can you let me have a dollar, dear?  
Husband—(cheerfully)—No, I can't. Haven't I just spent \$2,500 on an automobile?—Detroit Free Press.

### Reversed.

"The average man out of work always declares he would have been all right if he had only had a good show in the last place."  
"Unless he's an actor; then his cry is, if he had only had a good place in the last show."—Puck.

### Her Carriage.

Molly—She rides very gracefully!  
Sally—Yes, better than she walks; her homely carriage is perfectly horrid.—Brooklyn Life.

### An Epitaph.

"He left this world at sixty-four  
For birth he was a foreigner;  
Run over by a railroad,  
And sat on by a coroner."  
—Frank L. Stanton.

### Same Old Girls.

Acem—What do you want with a safety pin?  
Faryste—To fix my suspenders.  
Acem—Don't be so stringy. Why don't you buy yourself a new pair?  
Faryste—I hate it, it's getting so near Christmas, I always get at least four pairs then.—Philadelphia Press.

### Didn't Help Him Much.

"I got de faith of Joshua!" exclaimed the colored brother.  
"Yes," observed an old deacon, "but de am won't stan' still for you long enough ter make a reduction in de gas bill!"—Atlanta Constitution.

### Doing His Best.

"What were those blood-curdling shrieks I heard last night?"  
"That was Jamison trying to quiet his new baby. You see, he can't sing a note, and so he gives his college yells as a substitute."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

### Willing to Set a Limit.

Girl in the Grand Stand—Isn't it a cruel game? Do you think it's fair for a dozen men to pile themselves in top of the poor fellow that has the ball?  
Ho! Escort—No; there oughtn't to be more than eleven of them, anyway.—Chicago Tribune.

### A Song of Street Cars.

Sing a song of street cars,  
Sings all full with chaps;  
Four and twenty ladies  
Hanging by der straps;  
Ven der dore was closed  
Der men began to read  
All der advertisements  
Should new der breakfast feed.  
All der yimmen, sniffling,  
Hopped from feet to feet,  
But der Juddel Brothers  
Stuck fast to der seats.  
—Dinkelapiel, in New York American.

### Softening Influence of Age.

"Age," remarked the philosopher, "is a great softener. It makes one more tender."  
"If that's the case," remarked the Nervy Boarder from the foot of the table, "I wish this chicken had been a few years older when they killed it."—Cincinnati Times-Star.

### Dun or Be Done.

"By Jove, Reggie, I don't see why my tailor should dun me. It's positive insolence."  
"Dear boy, perhaps he's afraid you've done him."—Boston Globe.

### No Recommendation.

"You wouldn't suppose, would you," he said, "that in my veins flows the blood of kings?"  
"No," she replied. "I wouldn't, and I haven't much of an opinion of kings, as a rule, either."—Chicago Record-Herald.

### A Prayer.

The men possessed of surplus dough,  
To Florida by hundreds go,  
The massive tarpon to ensnare,  
And shall hear their vocal blare  
When they return, spun by the wind,  
Will be their yarus, and this is hard.  
Oh, angler maniacs, stay at home,  
And mid the trees cease to roam.  
In spring the time of being treated  
But when your tarpon yarus are shouted,  
It makes a year devoid of peace.  
So, angler maniacs, please to be good,  
To take another whack at society.

## Courts and Capitals

By THE MARQUISE DE FONTENOT.

### Sovereign or State?

There have been many vicissitudes of the tragedy at Belgrade which cost the lives of King Alexander and Queen Draga, none more curious and interesting than the law suit which has taken place at Berlin between Colonel von Gane, and the editor-in-chief of the ultra-conservative "Kreuzzeitung," and which has resulted in a verdict against the colonel.

The latter, who is a retired officer, had in discussing the murder at Belgrade, expressed in print the opinion that while the Serbian officers had assuredly been guilty of disloyalty to their ruler, yet that their obligations as citizens to the nation were superior to their allegiance to the sovereign. He pointed out that whereas the oath of allegiance was only taken by the soldier on entering the army, a man's obligation as a citizen commenced with his very birth, and must, therefore, be considered as above those which are pertaining to the army, he had undertaken with regard to his ruler.

The editor of the "Kreuzzeitung" denounced this view in the most vigorous language, declared that any German officer professing it was unfit to retain his commission, and insisted that there was no such thing as a citizen, and that ideas were as subversive of order and as harmful as any of the teachings of "anarchists." The colonel sued the "Kreuzzeitung" for libel, but was defeated, the courts holding that the paper in question was thoroughly justified in its pronouncement, and declaring from the bench, ex cathedra, that the obedience of the soldier to his commander, that is to say, to his sovereign, is superior in every respect to his duty as a citizen to the state. This judgment has been confirmed by the highest courts of appeal.

### The Decision Defended.

Now, while at first sight this decree may seem to be unjust and in keeping with principles of military and political despotism, rather than with those of a free and enlightened government, yet a little thought and consideration will show that the German tribunals are after all right, and that any contrary decision on their part would have dealt a blow at those ethics of discipline and obedience which are the foundation of every army. For it would have not merely encouraged, but actually authorized, soldiers, as well as officers, to refrain from obeying any command until they had thoroughly satisfied themselves that it was not calculated in any way to interfere with their obligations to the state, or to run contrary to their duties as citizens.

If that were the case no general, in fact, no superior officer, could ever depend upon that immediate compliance with his commands and upon that unquestioning obedience which are so indispensable to the success of military operations. The fate of many a battle, nay, even the downfall of many a nation, has resulted from the failure on the part of divisional and brigade commanders in the field to give instant and full execution to the orders received from a general-in-chief, and it is impossible to conceive the latter going into action with the slightest hope or prospect of victory if he felt that each direction which he gave would be questioned by his subordinates before conforming thereto.

### Diversity of Views.

Nearly every man holds different views as to his obligations as a citizen, and on the subject of what is best for the interests of the state. The diversity of interpretation about the matter is almost beyond belief. If these ideas, therefore, are allowed to have any weight in determining whether or not a soldier or an officer is to give unquestioning obedience to orders received from a superior, the army will become worse than useless, and merely an unruly horde of armed men, each following his own devices.

This question as to the priority of a soldier's duty of obedience to his commanding officer, that is to say, to the generalissimo, over his obligations as a citizen to the state, is a problem that has been a matter of discussion for hundreds of years past. But so far as I am aware the decree of the German courts in the recent case of Colonel von Gane, against the editor of the "Kreuzzeitung," is the first instance of a national tribunal issuing a judicial pronouncement to the effect that the army owes a greater degree of allegiance to its supreme head, that is to say, to the monarch, than to the state.

### Case of Charles I.

It is a problem which British soldiers were called upon to determine in the reign of the English King Charles I., who, having violated the terms of the constitution, found himself in armed conflict with parliament. A portion of the army sided with the King, holding that their allegiance to him was superior to that which they owed to the state, as represented by parliament, while the other portion of the army ranged themselves under the orders of Oliver Cromwell and the other parliamentary leaders, taking the ground that their obligations as patriotic citizens to the commonwealth were of greater weight than their duty to the crown.

Most of the revolution of the nineteenth century resulted from troops taking the same view as the Roundheads in the days of the Great Protector in England. The overthrow in 1588 of Queen Isabella of Spain; of Empress Eugenie when regent of France in 1870; of King Louis Philippe in 1848, and of King Otto of Greece in 1830 were due to the failure of the soldiers to rally round their sovereign in moments when the latter were in open conflict with their people, that is to say, with the state, while it was solely due to the loyalty of the army to the monarch and to its preferring its allegiance to the crown to its obligations to the people that the rulers of Holland, Prussia, Baden, Saxony, Austria and other states were able to save their thrones from being engulfed by the great wave of popular revolution that swept over Europe in 1848.

### As to Dueling.

Although the general synod of the German Protestant Church in session in Berlin has passed a resolution declaring dueling to be a sin, yet the lay president of the synod, Count Stosch, chief of one of the oldest houses of the German aristocracy, and well advanced in years, delivered an address upon the question in which he declared that if he were to receive an insult which in his opinion could not be wiped out in any other way, he would in spite of his years resort to an encounter on the field of honor. The synod might, however, be added, rest

assured that he would first weigh the matter conscientiously.  
Another influential lay member of the synod, Baron von Gerlach, declared himself even more strongly in favor of dueling, and referred to Exodus, chapters 20 and 21, in support of his views. He insisted that dueling was not a moral sin, and that it was a matter for the cognizance of the law, and in no sense for that of the church.

### Regarded as Hopeless.

Of course when opinions such as these are expressed by men who are regarded by their fellow-citizens as the principal pillars of the national church, and who as such are elected by the synod itself to preside over its deliberations, it is absolutely hopeless to look for any serious move in the direction of the abolition of the code. True the various rulers of Continental Europe have expressed themselves strongly against dueling. Yet they would be the first people to frown upon those of their officers or nobles who had declined to fight when challenged. Even in England, where the code is so strictly forbidden by law, and where it has been virtually abolished in the army and in the navy, an officer who becomes involved in trouble abroad with a foreigner, and who then when challenged declines to fight—shows in one word what is popularly known as the white feather—is usually ousted from the army. A notable instance is that of Col. Fred Wellesley, brother of the late Earl Cowley, who was compelled to leave Vienna, where he was military attaché, for declining to fight a duel. The royal Duke of Cambridge, who was commander-in-chief of the army at the time, demanded the resignation of his commission.

"But, what am I to do, sir?" asked Wellesley, pointing out that dueling was contrary to regulations.

"Turn dancing master and be damned to you," shouted the duke, pointing to the door.

## Bubbles.

Line work—palms, palms.

Case hardened—the unsympathetic judge.

Would your fingers stay if they weren't nailed on?

Fashionable women are called upon to pay their calls.

In praising a rubber plant, the florist is apt to stretch it.

The genealogical crank sometimes barks up the wrong family tree.

The nagging woman knows how to use "a harp of a thousand strings."

When a man's single he's doubly interesting to women who are likewise.

"Imitation is the sincerest flattery," but not when it is done by a parrot.

The leading lady seldom lets even the advance agent get the start of her.

A man is just enough for some girls if he is "just lovely."

The boys and girls are already beginning to wish Santa Claus didn't have a way of finding out everything.

A woman should not be expected to think of very much else, for her mind is occupied working 't hat is on straight.

And how her skirt hangs behind.

—Philadelphia Bulletin.

### Lacey's Train-Robbing Methods.

"A great many think Pat Lacey is the man who, single-handed, held up an Iron Mountain passenger train near Higginson three years ago," said a local officer yesterday, discussing the bold escape of the prisoner supposed to be Lacey Monday afternoon.

"I am inclined to think from the desperate chances taken by the man to get away that he must be Lacey. He is nothing if not daring, and the fact that a forty-five was taken from him when he was suddenly confronted and arrested in Argenta Monday shows that he always goes with a gun. The public mind, however, itself was one of the boldest deeds on record. Think of one man going through a train and relieving the passengers of their valuables without resistance! But that is the kind of chance a man like Lacey would take, and it is not surprising that he, if it really were Lacey, while sitting handcuffed in a buggy on West Markham Street, as the officer having him in charge was getting commitment papers, seized the whip and lashed the crowd, causing the animal to dash through the carnival crowds in the street, and made his escape. K. has since evaded capture, although hotly pursued, and the horse and buggy are still missing. In communities where Lacey is known he has the reputation of being a dangerous man. Deputy Constable Carr and Policeman Phillips certainly displayed courage when they captured him Monday, and it is to be regretted that their bravery is futile in this instance, since it appears improbable that the man can be retaken. It is said there is a reward of \$500 outstanding for Lacey in Texas on a murder charge, and that he is also wanted in Louisa county. The theory that he is the Higginson lone train robber is pretty well established, too."—Arkansas Gazette.

### By Jimine!